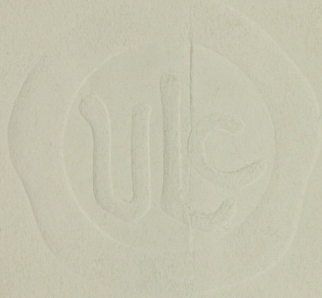


EXHIBITION OF PORTRAITS BY EARLY
AMERICAN PORTRAIT PAINTERS

Union League Club (New York, N.Y.)

BROOKLYN MUSEUM
LIBRARY PRESERVATION
JANUARY 2011



ART EXHIBITION

February

1924



EXHIBITION *of* PORTRAITS

By

EARLY AMERICAN
PORTRAIT PAINTERS



THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB

NEW YORK

FEBRUARY 14, 15 AND 21, 22, 1924

THE COMMITTEE ON ART *desires to express
its thanks to a former Chairman for his co-
operation in assembling and cataloguing
the old American portraits in the present
exhibition.*

ND 237

N46

1924

EXHIBITION *of* PORTRAITS
By
 EARLY AMERICAN ARTISTS



ARTISTS REPRESENTED

AUDUBON, JOHN JAMES	1785-1851
DURAND, ASHER BROWN	1796-1886
DUVENECK, FRANK	1848-1919
EARL, RALPH	1751-1801
EICHHOLTZ, JACOB	1776-1842
HEALY, G. P. A.	1813-1894
HICKS, THOMAS	1823-1890
HUNTINGTON, DANIEL	1816-1906
JOHNSON, DAVID	1827-1908
LEUTZE, EMANUEL	1816-1868
NEAGLE, JOHN	1796-1865
SAVAGE, EDWARD	1761-1817
STUART, GILBERT (3 pictures)	1755-1828
SULLY, THOMAS	1783-1872
THEUS, JEREMIAH	1719-1774
WALDO, SAMUEL L.	1783-1861



GEO. W. PARKE CUSTIS

GEORGE WASHINGTON

ELEANOR PARKE CUSTIS


MARTHA WASHINGTON

"BILLY" LEE

THE WASHINGTON FAMILY

Portraits Painted from Life, 1789 and 1796

By EDWARD SAVAGE (1761-1817)



CATALOGUE

1

THE WASHINGTON FAMILY

*Painted from Life in New York City and Philadelphia between
1789 and 1796*

GEORGE WASHINGTON	1732-1799
MRS. GEORGE WASHINGTON	1732-1802
*GEORGE WASHINGTON PARKE CUSTIS	1781-1857
*ELEANOR PARKE CUSTIS	1779-1852
"BILLY" LEE, a colored servant	

**The Two Adopted Grandchildren*

Painted by EDWARD SAVAGE (1761-1817)

Canvas—Size 7 feet high by 9 feet 3 inches long

Among the Washington papers in the Department of State at the national capital is this letter.

On June 3, 1798, Savage writes to Washington from "No. 70 South 4th Street, Philadelphia":

"Agreeable to Col. Biddle's order, I delivered four of the best impressions of your Family Print. They are chosen out of the first that was printed. Perhaps you may think that they are too dark, but they will change lighter after hanging two or three months. * * * The likenesses of the young people are not much like what they are at present. The Copper-plate was begun and half finished from the likenesses which I painted in New York in the year 1789. I could not make the alterations in the copper to make it like the painting which I finished in Philadelphia in the year 1796. The portraits of yourself and Mrs. Washington are generally thought to be likenesses. * * * In consequence of its success and being generally approved of, I continued the subscription. * * * As soon as I have one printed in colours I shall take the liberty to send it to Mrs. Washington for her acceptance. I think she will like it better than a plain print. Mrs. Savage joins me in respectful compliments to Mrs. Washington."

To this letter from Savage, Washington replied:

Mt. Vernon, 17th June, 98.

Mr. Ed. Savage

Sir,—I have been favored with your letter of the 3rd instant and pray you to receive my thanks for your attention in chusing the prints which you sent to Col. Biddle for my use. As Mrs. Washington also does for your politeness in presenting her one in colours. We are pleased to hear that the undertaking has succeeded so well. Col. Biddle I presume has paid you for the first four, being so directed.

Mrs. Washington offers her compts to you and Mrs. Savage.

I am your Obdt Servt

GO. WASHINGTON

Rembrandt Peale in his lecture on Washington Portraits, referring to The Washington Family picture, by Edward Savage, stated that Washington gave sittings for it in Philadelphia.

A letter to the late S. P. Avery, Jr., from Moses Kimball, of Boston, in 1891, stated that The Washington Family had been in his possession more than fifty years, and came to him in the collection of the New England Museum that he purchased, and which he understood came direct from Savage.

Another letter, of November, 1892, from the late Charles H. Savage, a grandson of the artist, confirms the dates given by Moses Kimball in 1891.

The Washington Family (84 inches x 111 inches) by Savage was purchased in 1891 from its owner, Moses Kimball, of Boston, by Mr. Avery and sold soon after to the late William F. Havemeyer of New York City.

ENGRAVED BY THE ARTIST, 1798

The Washington Family group was engraved by Edward Savage himself and published March 10, 1798.

It is interesting to note that in Martha Washington's will, dated March 4, 1802, she made a special bequest to her granddaughter, Eleanor Parke Lewis, nee Custis, of "a print of the Washington Family." Upon the back of another engraving of the Family portrait is this inscription, "Presented to Mrs. Elizabeth Washington by George Washington Parke Custis,

July 4, 1802." These types, A and B, are shown in the present exhibition, 1924, at The Union League Club of New York City, with the original oil painting by Savage.

The popularity and sale of the artist's engraving of his "Washington Family" were so great that a half dozen publishing establishments in the United States produced copies with variations in black and white mezzotint, aquatint and stipple, while lithographs in bright tints were printed later and sold, which bore but slight resemblance to the original composition and never duplicated the colors employed in the oil painting by the artist.

EDWARD SAVAGE (1761-1817)

Edward Savage was born in Princeton, Worcester County, Massachusetts, November 26, 1761, and died there July 6, 1817. Savage was originally a goldsmith, a trade that has graduated not a few engravers. He could not, however, have followed it for any great length of time, as he was only twenty-eight when he left Massachusetts for New York, with a letter from President Willard of Harvard to Washington, November 7, 1789, requesting him to sit for his portrait for the University, where it hangs today. In 1791 Savage went to London and studied under Benjamin West. He returned to the United States in 1794 and was married in Boston on October 13, of the same year. Soon after he settled in Philadelphia and in July of 1795, he exhibited the first panorama ever shown in that city. It represented London and Westminster. It was about this time that Savage joined forces with Daniel Bowen in the New York Museum, which in 1795 was taken to Boston and opened as the Columbian Museum. The museum with a portion of its contents was burned in 1803. In 1806 Bowen and W. M. S. Doyle erected the Museum Building in Tremont Street, which the next year was destroyed by fire, rebuilt, and kept up until 1825, when the Columbian Museum passed to the New England Museum. In 1840 it was purchased by Moses Kimball, who maintained it as the Boston Museum for more than half a century. To the gallery of this museum the heirs of Savage contributed several important American paintings and portraits, including The Washington Family.

2

WILLIAM CLARK FRAZER

(1776-1838)

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN,

1836-1838

Painted in Lancaster, Pa., in 1835

by Jacob Eichholtz (1776-1842)

Jacob Eichholtz was born in Lancaster, Pa., 1776, and when Sully visited there, offered him his painting room, in acknowledgment of which Sully gave him some of his brushes. Later he went to Boston and had some instruction from Stuart. He painted portraits for most of the leading families of Lancaster County. He died in Philadelphia in 1842.

3

MISS RYAN

SISTER OF REVEREND JOHN RYAN (1774-1852)

Painted in Philadelphia in 1829

by John Neagle (1796-1865)

John Neagle was born in Boston in 1796. Principally self-taught. His paintings in Philadelphia give him high rank. The best portrait of Gilbert Stuart from life was painted by Neagle, in Boston. He died in 1865.

4

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

(1767-1848)

SIXTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, 1825-1829

Painted from Life in Washington, D. C., in 1824

by Thomas Sully (1783-1872)

Thomas Sully, the painter, who was born in England in 1783, came to this country with his parents. The family settled at Charleston, S. C. Sully established himself in Philadelphia as an artist at the age of twenty-five, after a short residence in New York and in Boston, and after having received while in Boston some instruction from Gilbert Stuart, he went to London and studied for two years under Benjamin West, returning to New York, but making Philadelphia the home of his last years. He died there in 1872.

5

EDWIN FORREST

(1806-1872)

AMERICAN ACTOR

Painted in 1871

by David Johnson (1827-1908)

David Johnson was born in New York, May 10, 1827. He was chiefly self-taught. He was one of the last survivors of the "Hudson River School" of American landscape painters. He received a medal at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876. He also painted portraits, among them one of his friends, the tragedian, Edwin Forrest, who was a frequent visitor to his New York studio. He was elected a member of the National Academy of Design in 1861. He died at Walden, Orange County, N. Y., January 30, 1908.

6

R. G. LIVINGSTON DE PEYSTER

(1795-1873)

GRADUATE OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, 1815

PROMINENT NEW YORK MERCHANT

Painted in 1828

by Samuel L. Waldo (1783-1861)

The painter, Samuel L. Waldo, was a native of Connecticut, where he was born in 1783, in the town of Windham. He went to London in 1806, joined John Singleton Copley and Benjamin West, with whom he studied. Returning to America in 1809, he spent the remainder of his life in New York, where he died in 1861.

7

HENRY THEODORE TUCKERMAN

(1813-1871)

AUTHOR OF "BOOK OF THE ARTISTS"

Painted in 1866

by Daniel Huntington (1816-1906)

Daniel Huntington was born in New York in 1816 and died in 1906. Pupil of S. F. B. Morse; he went to Europe in 1839. In 1850, he held an exhibition of his works in New York. He was the third President of the National Academy of Design, being elected in 1862. During his long and active life he painted the portraits of many distinguished people.

BAYARD TAYLOR

(1825-1878)

AUTHOR, JOURNALIST AND STATESMAN

by Thomas Hicks, N. A. (1823-1890)

Born in Pennsylvania in 1823. Commenced painting portraits when he was fifteen years of age. Went to Europe in 1845. Returning in 1849 to this country, he was elected a National Academician in 1851. He painted the portraits of many distinguished Americans, and died in 1890.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE

(1804-1864)

DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN NOVELIST

Painted in Washington, D. C., in 1862

by Emanuel Leutze (1816-1868)

In a volume entitled "Yesterdays with Authors" there is the following reference by James T. Fields to this painting: "Time went on, the war broke out, and he (Hawthorne) had not the heart to go on with his new romance. During the month of April, 1862, he made a visit to Washington with his friend Ticknor, to whom he was greatly attached. While on this visit to the capital he sat to Leutze for a portrait. He took a special fancy to the artist, and while he was sitting to him, wrote a long letter to me. Here is an extract from it:

"I stay here only while Leutze finishes a portrait, which I think will be the best ever painted of the same unworthy subject. One charm it must needs have—an aspect of immortal jollity and well-to-doness; for Leutze, when the sitting begins, gives me a first-rate cigar, and when he sees me getting tired, he brings out a bottle of splendid champagne; and we quaffed and smoked yesterday, in a blessed state of mutual good-will, for three hours and a half, during which the picture made a really miraculous progress. Leutze is the best of fellows."

EMANUEL LEUTZE (1816-1868)

Emanuel Leutze, historical painter, was born May 24, 1816, in Germany. Being obliged to leave there on account of political opinions, he made Philadelphia his home. His "Western Emigration" is conspicuous in the National Capitol and "Washington Crossing the Delaware" is everywhere familiar through engravings. He died July 18, 1868, in Washington, D. C.

10

HENRY CLAY

(1777-1852)

FAMOUS ORATOR AND STATESMAN

UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM 1806-1852

by John J. Audubon (1785-1851)

John James Audubon came to New York in August, 1824, Sully having given him letters to Stuart, Allston and Trumbull. At this time Audubon met John Vanderlyn and posed for the figure of Vanderlyn's portrait of General Jackson. Audubon visited Meadville, Penn., in 1824, and while in that city painted several portraits. Late in 1824, he went as far south as Louisiana. He remained in various cities in the South until May, 1826, when he again started for Europe, landing at Liverpool on July 21. He was at once invited to show his drawings at the Royal Academy. He made several trips to the United States between 1829 and 1839. He died in New York January 27, 1851.

11

LESLIE PEASE BARNUM

(1846-1915)

UNITED STATES VICE-CONSUL IN MUNICH, 1875-1877

Painted in 1876

by Frank Duveneck (1848-1919)

Frank Duveneck, painter, sculptor, etcher and teacher. He was born at Covington, Ky., in 1848, and received his early training at a monastery near Pittsburgh. He also studied in Munich. He was made a National Academician in 1906, and was a member of the Society of American Artists of New York, Cincinnati Art Club, and the National Institute of Arts and Letters. He died January 2, 1919.

12

THOMAS EARL

(1737-1819)

COUSIN OF THE ARTIST RALPH EARL
 GUNMAKER IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR
 He lived at Cherry Valley, Mass., where he was
 painted in 1800

by Ralph Earl (1751-1801)

Ralph Earl was born May 11, 1751. He went to London and studied painting under Benjamin West, and was elected to the Royal Academy in 1783. Earl returned to America about 1786, where he continued to paint many portraits until his death. He died August 16, 1801, at Bolton, Connecticut.

13

MRS. WILLIAM ROBINSON

(ANNE CALVERT STUART)

A RELATIVE OF MARTHA WASHINGTON

by Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828)

Gilbert Stuart, a Rhode Islander, was born in 1755, and went to Scotland at sixteen, but his instructor, Cosmo Hamilton, dying, the American artist had to work his way home. He went back to London before he was twenty, however, and studied under Benjamin West, living at the English capital for thirteen years, and then for five years in Dublin. In 1793-1794, he lived in New York, then in Philadelphia for eight years, and in Washington for three years. From 1806 until his death, Boston was his home. He died there in 1828.

14

VINCENT PEARSE

DIED 1745

COMMODORE OF THE FLEET STATIONED

AT CHARLESTON, S. C.

by Jeremiah Theus (1719-1774)

Jeremiah Theus, although well known in his day, and likened to Copley, owing to the manner of his painting in some of his portraits, has since then been little known or heard of until very recent years, when his works have been coming to light again, and only too often have been attributed to Copley. He was born in Switzerland, and came to this country in 1739. In the following year, he was established in a studio, and painting portraits at Charleston, S. C. He remained in America until his death, May 18, 1774.

15

JOHN BAPTISTA ASHE

(1748-1802)

COLONEL IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY

MEMBER OF CONGRESS, 1789-1793

ELECTED GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA, 1802

by Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828)

Gilbert Stuart, a Rhode Islander, was born in 1755, and went to Scotland at sixteen, but his instructor, Cosmo Hamilton, dying, the American artist had to work his way home. He went back to London before he was twenty, however, and studied under Benjamin West, living at the English capital for thirteen years, and then for five years in Dublin. In 1793-1794, he lived in New York, then in Philadelphia for eight years, and in Washington for three years. From 1806 until his death, Boston was his home. He died there in 1828.

16

CHRISTIAN GOBRECHT

(1785-1844)

AMERICAN ENGRAVER AND INVENTOR

by Asher Brown Durand (1796-1886)

Asher Brown Durand was born in Jefferson, N. J., August 21, 1796, and died in South Orange, N. J., August 17, 1886. His first instruction in art was in the workshop of his father, a jeweler, where Durand engraved the initials on silverware. He then took up engraving, and making a considerable success of it, was apprenticed to Peter Maverick, an engraver in New York City. He achieved considerable distinction through his engravings made from paintings by the best artists of the day. Being dissatisfied with engraving, he gradually took up painting, and in 1835 devoted himself to portraits and landscapes. He painted a number of excellent portraits. He was one of the founders of the New York Academy of Design in 1826 and was its President from 1845 to 1861.

COUNSELOR DAVID DUNN

NOTED LINGUIST AND LAWYER

Painted in Boston, circa 1806

by Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828)

Counselor Dunn was an Irish gentleman who came to this country, partly, perhaps wholly, to study the Indian languages. He was here about the time Stuart painted Washington's portraits, and remained in the United States about three years. Mason says he gave his portrait by Stuart to Mrs. Perez Morton, whose husband for many years was Attorney-General of Massachusetts. After the death of Stuart, the picture was bought from Mrs. Morton, or from her family, by Mr. George W. Brimmer of Boston. Mr. Dunn is represented as a man about forty years of age. There are three of these portraits of Counselor Dunn.

This portrait and a portrait of Washington, Athenæum type, were taken back to England by Counselor Dunn, where they remained in his family until 1909, when they were both brought back to this country, where they are at present.

Gilbert Stuart was born in Rhode Island in 1755. He went to Scotland when he was sixteen years of age and soon returned to the United States. He went back to London before he was twenty years old and studied under Benjamin West, living in the English capital thirteen years. Then he painted in Ireland for five years, returning to the United States in 1793. He painted in Europe for more than twenty years in all. He died in Boston, Mass., in 1828.

MISS H

by G. P. A. Healy (1813-1894)

Born in Boston in 1813, and died in Chicago in 1894. Portrait painter. Studied in Paris from 1836. Went to Chicago about 1858, where he was given a farm of 50 acres which eventually came into the city limits, and which he sold for a large price. With his family he went to Europe and remained long in Rome. His portraits of distinguished people are numerous. He painted many in Chicago, Washington, and for Louis Philippe. He was an honorary member of the National Academy of Design.

Committee on Art

George F. Kunz

Chairman

Herbert S. Carpenter

Secretary

E. Le Grand Beers

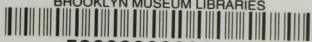
Alexander McM. Welch

Alfred Hopkins

Finley J. Shepard

William Evarts Benjamin

BROOKLYN MUSEUM LIBRARIES



50000000333012

